

Linking Genetic and Aggression Factors with Criminal Behaviour: A Systematic Review

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A substantial body of literature has suggested that biology and personality traits play a major role in predicting antisocial behaviour. Thus, the purpose of this article is to review the link between genetic and aggression factors with criminal behaviour. A systematic review was conducted to obtain relevant information regarding biological and psychological perspective on criminality in Sage, Elsevier and Google Scholar database. The results indicate that moderate-to-large number of variance in criminal behaviour is ascribed to genetic and aggressive factors. As an overall impact, the study provided implications to the concerned parties regarding the interpersonal elements that trigger antisocial behaviour hence a preventive measure to assist at-risk group can be initiated soon.

Keywords: genetic, aggression, criminal, behaviour, systematic review

Criminal behaviour is a multi-layer dimension that has been successfully explored by myriad scholars (Nussbaum 2005; Delisi 2009; Ulmer et al. 2014; Fauziah et al. 2017). In general, crime is an immoral act that eradicates the well-being of community members and jeopardise the growth of a nation. A handful number of studies has disclosed that an individual involvement in antisocial behaviour is influenced by various risk factors such as biological, social and environmental elements (Walker et al. 2006; Andrews et al. 2010; Taylor 2015).

Criminology and psychology field of studies has a long history of examining how individual-level risk factors affect the propensity to get involved in criminal

behaviour. In order to further understand the evolution of crime studies, it is worth noting that sociological perspective too has predominated various research related to crime (Walsh 2000). Bringing these points together, it is essential to highlight that in the past few years an emerging paradigm has also been identified in the field of biosocial that majorly links between genetic and biological influences on criminality and criminal behaviour (Faraone et al. 2001; Rhee et al. 2002; Beaver et al. 2007; Beaver et al. 2011).

Hitherto, numerous studies have started to explore and incorporate the influence of genetic and aggressive dimension to construct a theoretical, conceptual and statistical model (Walsh 2002; Burt et al.